MAR 2 3 2001



PATENT Customer Number 22,852 Attorney Docket No. 1147.0142

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Reissue Application of: U.S. Patent No. 5,750,338 Mark L. Collins et al.

Reissue Serial No.: 09/533,906

Filed: March 8, 2000

For: TARGET AND BACKGROUND

> CAPTURE METHODS WITH AMPLIFICATION FOR **AFFINITY ASSAYS**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

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Group Art Unit: 1655

APR 2 0 2001

Examiner: D. Johannsen

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LETTER

The undersigned would like thank Ms. Karin Tyson of the Special Program Law Office for the courtesy of a telephone conference in an attempt to clarify the content of certain papers filed with the original papers in the above-identified reissue application. Those papers were characterized as informal drawings by the Office. In fact, those papers are not drawings but rather were part of the original request for reissue.

Specifically, in support of its request, the Patent Owner filed a Consent of Assignee, Offer to Surrender Original Patent, and Statement Under 37 C.F.R. § 3.73(b). Attached to that Consent was a copy of the Assignment of Patents and Applications from Amoco Corporation to Vysis Inc. and a Schedule 1 (pages 1-18, each entitled "Vysis, Inc. - US and Foreign Patents/Applications) which listed all of the applications

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and patents being assigned to Vysis Inc. (copy attached). In light of the confidentiality of the information contained in the Schedule 1 and its irrelevance to the reissue application, the Patent Owner redacted the confidential information prior to filing it with the reissue papers. These pages are not drawings and should not be considered as such. Moreover, since these pages are part of the Assignment, the undersigned does not believe that an amendment to remove these pages from the reissue application would be proper. Thus, the Patent Owner urges the Office to retain them as part of the official file but as documents supporting the Patent Owner's initial request for reissue and not as drawings. If, after considering the above, the Office still believes that the redacted pages should be removed from the file, the undersigned hereby grants the Office the authority to remove them.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW, GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: March 23, 2001

By: <u>Van D. Fords</u> Jean B. Fordis

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